

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the Claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 47. (Cancelled)

48. (Currently Amended) A system for providing secure access to a controlled item, the system comprising:

a transmitter subsystem for enrolling biometric signatures into a database, using a legitimate sequence of one or more biometric signals to enrol each biometric signature, and for providing an accessibility attribute when a legitimate biometric signal is received; and

a receiver sub-system for providing access to the controlled item dependent upon said accessibility attribute, said transmitter subsystem comprising:

(a) means for, when the database of biometric signatures is empty, (ai) categorising a biometric signal received by the transmitter sub-system as an administrator biometric signal and (aii) enrolling the administrator biometric signal in the database of biometric signatures as an administrator signature;

(b) means for, when the database of biometric signatures is not empty, classifying a sequence of biometric signals received by the transmitter sub-system as control information when (bi) the received biometric signals are administrator biometric signals, and (bii) the biometric signals forming the received sequence are

of predetermined duration, predetermined quantity, and are input within a predetermined time;

(c) means for, when the received sequence of biometric signals is identified as control information, (ci) checking the control information against predetermined control information and (cii) enrolling another user dependent upon a biometric signal from the other user and the checked control information; and

(d) means for, when the received sequence of biometric signals is not identified as control information, (di) matching biometric signals received by the transmitter sub-system against signatures in the database of biometric signatures, and (dii) when a received biometric signal matches a signature in the database sending the accessibility attribute to the receiver

~~a receiver sub-system for providing access to the controlled item dependent upon said accessibility attribute.~~

49. (Currently Amended) A transmitter sub-system adapted to operate in a system configured to provide secure access to a controlled item, the system further including a processor, a memory, and a receiver sub-system configured to provide access to the controlled item dependent upon an accessibility attribute received from the transmitter sub-system; wherein the transmitter subsystem comprises:

(a) means for, when the database of biometric signatures is empty, (ai) categorising a biometric signal received by the transmitter sub-system as an

administrator biometric signal and (aii) enrolling the administrator biometric signal in the database of biometric signatures as an administrator signature;

(b) means for, when the database of biometric signatures is not empty, classifying a sequence of biometric signals received by the transmitter sub-system as control information when (bi) the received biometric signals are administrator biometric signals, and (bii) the biometric signals forming the received sequence are of predetermined duration, predetermined quantity, and are input within a predetermined time;

(c) means for, when the received sequence of biometric signals is identified as control information, (ci) checking the control information against predetermined control information and (cii) enrolling another user dependent upon a biometric signal from the other user and the checked control information; and

(d) means for, when the received sequence of biometric signals is not identified as control information, (di) matching biometric signals received by the transmitter sub-system against signatures in the database of biometric signatures, and (dii) when a received biometric signal matches a signature in the database sending the accessibility attribute to the receiver

~~means for enrolling biometric signatures into the memory and a database, using a legitimate sequence of one or more biometric signals to enroll each biometric signature; and~~

~~means for providing the accessibility attribute when a legitimate biometric signal is received.~~

50. (Currently Amended) A method of enrolling, by a transmitter sub-system, biometric signatures into a database of biometric signatures in a system for providing secure access to a controlled item, the system comprising the transmitter sub-system and a receiver sub-system for providing access to the controlled item dependent upon an accessibility attribute received by the receiver sub-system from the transmitter sub-system; said method comprising the steps of:

(a) when the database of biometric signatures is empty, (ai) categorising a biometric signal received by the transmitter sub-system as an administrator biometric signal and (aii) enrolling the administrator biometric signal in the database of biometric signatures as an administrator signature;

(b) when the database of biometric signatures is not empty, classifying a sequence of storing a biometric signals signal received by the transmitter sub-system as control information when (bi) the received biometric signals are administrator biometric signals, and (bii) the biometric signals forming the received sequence are of predetermined duration, predetermined quantity, and are input within a predetermined time;

(c) when the received sequence of biometric signals is identified as control information, (ci) checking the control information against predetermined control information and (cii) enrolling another user dependent upon a biometric signal from the other user and the checked control information in the memory and database as an administrator signature; and

(d) when the received sequence of biometric signals is not identified as control information, (di) matching biometric signals received by the transmitter sub-system against signatures in the database of biometric signatures, and (dii) when a received biometric signal matches a signature in the database sending the accessibility attribute to the receiver

~~enabling administrative processing of information stored in the database when a legitimate sequence of biometric signals, each signal matching the stored administrator signature, is received by the transmitter.~~

51. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium comprising:

a computer program recorded therein which, when executed by a processor, stores in a memory and enrolls, by a transmitter sub-system, biometric signatures into a database of biometric signatures in a system configured to provide secure access to a controlled item, the system comprising a processor, the memory, the transmitter sub-system and a receiver sub-system configured to provide access to the controlled item dependent upon an accessibility attribute received from the transmitter sub-system; said program comprising:

(a) code, when executed by the processor, that when the database of biometric signatures is empty, (ai) categorises a biometric signal received by the transmitter sub-system as an administrator biometric signal and (aii) enrolls the administrator biometric signal in the database of biometric signatures as an administrator signature;

(b) code, when executed by the processor, that when the database of biometric signatures is not empty, classifies a sequence of biometric signals received by the transmitter sub-system as control information when (bi) the received biometric signals are administrator biometric signals, and (bii) the biometric signals forming the received sequence are of predetermined duration, predetermined quantity, and are input within a predetermined time;

(c) code, when executed by the processor, that when the received sequence of biometric signals is identified as control information, (ci) checks the control information against predetermined control information and (cii) enrolls another user dependent upon a biometric signal from the other user and the checked control information

~~code, when executed by the processor, that stores a biometric signal received by the transmitter sub-system in the memory and database as an administrator signature; and~~

(d) code, when executed by the processor, that when the received sequence of biometric signals is identified as control information, enables administrative processing of information stored in the memory and database when a legitimate sequence of biometric signals, each signal matching the stored administrator signature, is received by the transmitter dependent upon the control information.

52. (Currently Amended) A system for providing secure access to a controlled item, the system comprising:

a database ~~of~~ for biometric signatures;

a transmitter subsystem comprising:

a biometric sensor for receiving a biometric signal;

means for matching the biometric signal against members of the database of biometric signatures to thereby output an accessibility attribute;

means for emitting a secure access signal conveying information dependent upon said accessibility attribute; and

means for enrolling biometric signatures into the database, using a legitimate sequence of one or more biometric signals to enrol each biometric signature, said means for enrolling comprising:

(a) means for, if the database of biometric signatures is empty, (ai) categorising a biometric signal received by the transmitter sub-system as an administrator biometric signal and (aii) enrolling the administrator biometric signal in the database of biometric signatures as an administrator signature;

(b) means for, if the database of biometric signatures is not empty, classifying a sequence of biometric signals received by the transmitter sub-system as control information if (bi) the received biometric signals are administrator biometric signals, and (bii) the biometric signals forming the received sequence are of predetermined duration, predetermined quantity, and are input within a predetermined time;

(c) means for, if the received sequence of biometric signals is identified as control information, (ci) checking the control information against predetermined control information and (cii) enrolling another user dependent upon a biometric signal from the other user and the checked control information; and

(d) means for, if the received sequence of biometric signals is not identified as control information, (di) matching biometric signals received by the transmitter sub-system against signatures in the database of biometric signatures, and (dii) if a received biometric signal matches a signature in the database sending the accessibility attribute to the receiver; and

a receiver sub-system comprising:

means for receiving the transmitted secure access signal; and

means for providing access to the controlled item dependent upon said information.

53. - 55. (Cancelled)

56. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 54 52, wherein the means for enrolling biometric signatures further comprises means for amending information stored in the database depending upon the control information.

57. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim ~~54~~ 52, wherein the other user may be enrolled as ~~means for enrolling biometric signatures further comprises means for classifying a subsequent biometric signal as one of an~~ another administrator ~~signature and~~ or an ordinary ~~signature user~~ depending upon the control information.

58. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 48, wherein the transmitter sub-system is incorporated into at least one of (a) a remote control module comprising at least one of a key fob and a mobile communication device, and (b) an enclosure mounted next to the controlled item.

59. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim ~~53~~ 52 further comprising means for providing a feedback signal for directing input of the control information.

60. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 59, wherein the means for providing the feedback signal comprises at least one of a visual indicator and an audio indicator.

61. (Currently Amended) A transmitter subsystem adapted to operate in a system configured to provide secure access to a controlled item, the system comprising a processor, a memory, a database of biometric signatures, said transmitter subsystem, and a receiver sub-system comprising means for receiving a transmitted

secure access signal, and means for providing access to the controlled item dependent upon information in said secure access signal, said transmitter sub-system comprising:

a biometric sensor configured to receive a biometric signal;

means for emitting a secure access signal capable of granting access to the controlled item; and

means for enrolling said biometric signatures into the memory and the database, using a legitimate sequence of one or more biometric signals to enrol each biometric signature, said means for enrolling comprising:

(a) means for, if the database of biometric signatures is empty, (ai) categorising a biometric signal received by the transmitter sub-system as an administrator biometric signal and (aii) enrolling the administrator biometric signal in the database of biometric signatures as an administrator signature;

(b) means for, if the database of biometric signatures is not empty, classifying a sequence of biometric signals received by the transmitter sub-system as control information if (bi) the received biometric signals are administrator biometric signals, and (bii) the biometric signals forming the received sequence are of predetermined duration, predetermined quantity, and are input within a predetermined time;

(c) means for, if the received sequence of biometric signals is identified as control information, (ci) checking the control information against predetermined

control information and (cii) enrolling another user dependent upon a biometric signal from the other user and the checked control information; and

(d) means for, if the received sequence of biometric signals is not identified as control information, (di) matching biometric signals received by the transmitter sub-system against signatures in the database of biometric signatures, and (dii) if a received biometric signal matches a signature in the database sending the accessibility attribute to the receiver.

62. (Currently Amended) A transmitter sub-system according to claim 61, wherein the means for enrolling said biometric signatures into the database further comprises:

~~means for storing the biometric signal received by the biometric sensor in the database as an administrator signature if when the database of biometric signatures is empty;~~

~~means for, if when an administrator signature has been stored in the database, classifying a legitimate sequence of one or more biometric signals, each signal matching the administrator signature, as control information; and~~

means for performing at least one of (a) amending information stored in the database depending upon the control information, and (b) classifying the other user a subsequent biometric signal as one of an administrator signature and or an ordinary user signature depending upon the control information.

63. (Currently Amended) A method of enrolling, by a transmitter sub-system, biometric signatures into a database of biometric signatures in a system for providing secure access to a controlled item, the system comprising (a) said database ~~for~~ of biometric signatures, (b) the transmitter subsystem comprising a biometric sensor for receiving a biometric signal, means for emitting a secure access signal capable of granting access to the controlled item and means for enrolling said biometric signatures into the database, and (c) a receiver sub-system comprising means for receiving the transmitted secure access signal, and means for providing access to the controlled item dependent upon information in said secure access signal, said method comprising the steps of:

~~receiving a biometric signal;~~

(d) if the database of biometric signatures is empty, (di) categorising a biometric signal received by the transmitter sub-system as an administrator biometric signal and (dii) enrolling the administrator biometric signal in the database of biometric signatures as an administrator signature;

(e) if the database of biometric signatures is not empty, classifying a sequence of biometric signals received by the transmitter sub-system as control information if (ei) the received biometric signals are administrator biometric signals, and (eii) the biometric signals forming the received sequence are of predetermined duration, predetermined quantity, and are input within a predetermined time;

(f) if the received sequence of biometric signals is identified as control information, (fi) checking the control information against predetermined control

information and (fii) enrolling another user dependent upon a biometric signal from the other user and the checked control information

~~storing the biometric signal received by the biometric sensor in the database as an administrator signature when the database of biometric signatures is empty;~~

~~if when an administrator signature has been stored in the database, classifying a legitimate sequence of one or more biometric signals, each signal matching the administrator signature, as control information; and~~

~~(g) performing at least one of (gi [[a]]) amending information stored in the database depending upon the control information, and (gii [[b]]) classifying the other user a subsequent biometric signal as one of an a further administrator signature and or an ordinary user signature depending upon the control information.~~

64. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium having a computer program recorded therein which, when executed by a processor, executes a method to enrol ~~enroll~~, by a transmitter sub-system, biometric signatures into a memory and a database of biometric signatures in a system configured to provide secure access to a controlled item, the system comprising (a) said memory and said database of for biometric signatures, (b) said transmitter subsystem comprising a biometric sensor for receiving a biometric signal, means for emitting a secure access signal capable of granting access to the controlled item and means for enrolling said biometric signatures into the database, and (c) a receiver sub-system comprising means for receiving the transmitted secure access signal, and means for providing

access to the controlled item dependent upon information in said secure access signal, said program comprising:

(d) code, when executed by the processor, that if the database of biometric signatures is empty, (di) categorises a biometric signal received by the transmitter sub-system as an administrator biometric signal and (dii) enrolls the administrator biometric signal in the database of biometric signatures as an administrator signature;

(e) code, when executed by the processor, that if the database of biometric signatures is not empty, classifies a sequence of biometric signals received by the transmitter sub-system as control information if (ei) the received biometric signals are administrator biometric signals, and (eii) the biometric signals forming the received sequence are of predetermined duration, predetermined quantity, and are input within a predetermined time;

(f) code, when executed by the processor, that if the received sequence of biometric signals is identified as control information, (fi) checks the control information against predetermined control information and (fii) enrolls another user dependent upon a biometric signal from the other user and the checked control information

~~code, when executed by the processor, that receives a biometric signal;~~

~~code, when executed by the processor, that stores the biometric signal received by the biometric sensor in the database as an administrator signature if when the database of biometric signatures is empty;~~

~~code, when executed by the processor, when an administrator signature has been stored in the database, that classifies a legitimate sequence of one or more biometric signals, each signal matching the administrator signature, as control information; and~~

(g) code, when executed by the processor, that performs at least one of (gi [[a]]) amending information stored in the database depending upon the control information, and (gii [[b]]) classifying a subsequent biometric signal the other user as ~~one of an~~ a further administrator signature and or an ordinary user signature depending upon the control information.